

Docket No.: 21581-00240-US  
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:  
Nishiyama et al.

Reissue Application No. Not Assigned

Patent No.: 6,340,767 B1

Filed: Herewith

Issued: January 22, 2002

For: PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF 5-  
HYDROXY-3-OXOPENTANOIC ACID  
DERIVATIVES

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MS REISSUE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

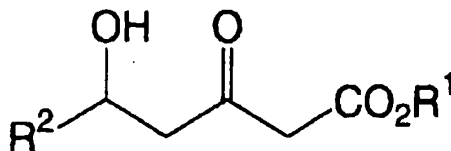
Please amend the application as discussed below.

In The Claims:

Please cancel claims 4, 19 and 20.

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) A process for producing a 5-hydroxy-3-oxopentanoic acid derivative of the following formula (IV):



(IV)

wherein R<sup>1</sup> represents any of an alkyl group of 1 to 12 carbon atoms, an aryl group of 6 to 12 carbon atoms and an aralkyl group of 7 to 12 carbon atoms; and R<sup>2</sup> represents any